

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 57th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN DON HARGROVE**, on January 26, 2001 at 10:00 A.M., in Room 335 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Don Hargrove, Chairman (R)
Sen. John C. Bohlinger, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Edward Butcher (R)
Sen. Pete Ekegren (R)
Sen. Jim Elliott (D)
Sen. Eve Franklin (D)
Sen. Ken Toole (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Fred Thomas (R)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Lynette Brown, Committee Secretary
David Niss, Legislative Branch

Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: SB 275, 1/19/2001
Executive Action: SB 256, SB 90

HEARING ON SB 275

Sponsor: SEN. DON HARGROVE, SD 16, Belgrade

Proponents: Ed Hanson, Selective Service
Dan Lieberg, Selective Service
Jim Barfknecht, Private Citizen
Hal Manson, American Legion of Montana
Dan Antonietti, Montana Veterans of Foreign Wars

Opponents: None

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

SEN. DON HARGROVE, SD 16, stated this bill says the Department of Justice will not issue someone a driver's license unless they are or do register for the draft. He shared amendment **SB027501.adn** which will be included with the bill. **EXHIBIT(sts21a01)** There are many severe, long-term problems for those not registering with the selective services system such as federal employment and programs.

Proponents' Testimony:

Ed Hanson, Selective Service, said this bill would help get many young individuals who drop out of school and go directly to work to register for the draft. He shared he would like another amendment to this bill concerning the last paragraph in Section three.

Dan Lieberg, Selective Service, voiced his support for this bill. He said this bill would provide fairness for all registered people and does not punish people for not registering; rather is to their benefit to register.

Jim Barfknecht, Private Citizen, stated this bill would help in the checks and balances system. This bill would make it more difficult to fall through the cracks in the system.

Hal Manson, American Legion, said this bill is a good incentive to get people to register. He feels it is important to develop a pool of people to draw from if the need arose.

Dan Antonietti, Veterans Foreign Wars, expressed his support of this bill.

Informational Testimony:

Dean Roberts, Administrator of the Motor Vehicle Division, stated his department has had an ongoing computer system problem which has caused the department to get behind in work. He expressed he would like an amendment placed on the bill giving his department the opportunity to begin this program when they have their computer programs ready and caught up. The Motor Vehicle Division may also perform this registration service on the internet at the department. His department said it would cost \$45,000 to provide this registry at this time.

Opponents: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

SEN. PETE EKEGREN asked at what age do people first have to renew their driver's license? **Mr. Roberts** responded they have to renew at age twenty-one.

Closing by Sponsor:

SEN. HARGROVE closed on SB 275. He told the committee there would be a revised fiscal note developed for this bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 256

Ed Hanson, University Systems, stated most students are compliant with registering for selective service. He explained students do not apply for fee waivers. It would create an extra burden if students were required to apply for the fee waivers. Fee waivers include high school honor scholarships, veteran's fee waivers, students on athletic grant and aids, and Indian fee waivers among others. Some of the scholarships are not applied for either; they are just granted to the students. The group of students who do apply for grants and loans use the same application used on the federal level, so the information is filled out with the information going to the selective service automatically.

SEN. ED BUTCHER questioned **Mr. Hanson** if it is just the high school honor scholarship forms that are affected? **Mr. Hanson** answered that was correct as all federal aid requires selective service registration already. **Mr. Hanson** added the athletic scholarship students are also not automatically registered. **SEN. BUTCHER** reiterated his concern about the athletic scholarship students being exempted from being required to register for the draft automatically before receiving money.

SEN. JIM ELLIOTT asked **Mr. Hanson** if we have a bill requiring the young people to sign up for the selective service on their driver's license, then why do we need to worry about a bill having them sign up at college also? **Ed Hanson** responded the driver's license bill would probably be more effective because through their computer system, the person can be signed up immediately with selective service being notified.

SEN. KEN TOOLE stated there is a pool of people that need to be reached. There are a number of things to be done to reach that pool of people. He said this bill is worthwhile if it would catch a few more of those people.

Motion: **SEN. TOOLE** moved that **SB 256 DO PASS**.

David Niss told the committee he needs to have an opportunity to study the amendment before the committee votes.

SEN. BUTCHER stated perhaps the driver's license bill would solve the registration problems and if so, perhaps the committee should table this bill instead.

SEN. HARGROVE said the committee would need to wait for executive action until the next day.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 90

David Niss explained amendment **SB009001.adn.** saying this amendment puts a province in the same situation as another state.

Motion/Vote: **SEN. TOOLE** moved that **AMENDMENT SB009001.ADN BE ADOPTED.** Motion carried unanimously.

Motion/Vote: **SEN. BOHLINGER** moved that **SB 90 DO PASS AS AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:45 A.M.

SEN. DON HARGROVE, Chairman

LYNETTE BROWN, Secretary

DH/LB

EXHIBIT (sts21aad)